



Attorney's Docket No.: 13498-005002 / MET-4

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Thomas J. McMurry et al. Art Unit : 1616
Serial No. : 10/034,522 Examiner : M. Hartley
Filed : December 20, 2001
Title : DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING CONTRAST AGENTS WITH EXTENDED BLOOD
RETENTION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Correspondence relating to this application is enclosed.

1. Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement
2. PTO form 1449 (8 pages)
3. References (3 documents)
4. Return Receipt Postcard

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 18, 2003

Teresa A. Lavoie
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Reg. No. 42,782

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

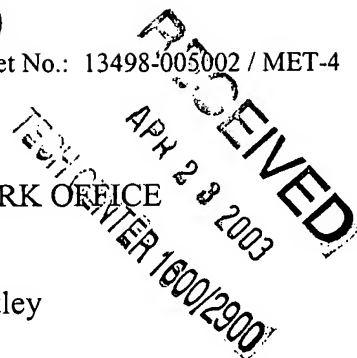
April 18, 2003

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Raquel M. Zamorano Carey
Signature

Raquel M. Zamorano Carey

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate



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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Under 35 USC §120, this application relies on the earlier filing date of application serial number 08/875,365, filed December 12, 1997, which is a §371 application of International Patent Application No. PCT/US96/00164 (WO 96/23526), filed January 16, 1996, which is a continuation-in-part of United States Patent Application 08/382,317, filed February 1, 1995.

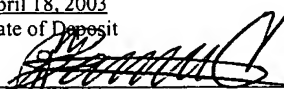
The references listed on the accompanying PTO form 1449 were submitted to and/or cited by the Office in the prior applications and, therefore, are not provided in this application, with exception of three references: PCT Publication WO95/15306, published 8 June 1995, PCT Publication WO 91/03200, published 21 March 1991, and Caravan et al., "Gandolinium III Chelates as MRI Contrast Agents: Structure, Dynamics, and Applications", published 1999. Copies of these three references are provided.

Applicants note U.S. Patent No. 4,963, 344 cited above was inadvertently cited as 4,863,344 in the Search Report for PCT/US90/04887, mailed February 21, 1991, but was correctly cited in the parent applications as stated above. Applicants note also that European Patent No. 0374947 was inadvertently submitted as 0347947 in the parent applications, and that

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Page : 2

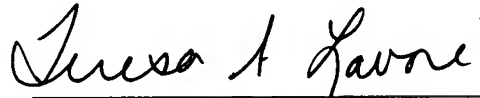
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the correct number is submitted on the PTO form 1449 submitted herewith. Further, European Patent No. 0169229 was published April 1990, not January 1986 as inadvertently stated previously.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached PTO form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

This statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or before the receipt of a first Office action on the merits. No fee is believed to be due. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa A. Lavoie, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 42,782

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